

# VALLEY STAR

LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE

Volume 50, Issue 7

Thursday, March 20, 1997

## HIGHLIGHTS

The Campus Concert Series will present the music of Armenian composers today at 11 a.m. in the Music Recital Hall.

The Zephyr vocal ensemble will perform Friday at 8 p.m. in the Music Recital Hall. \$12. \$8 students and seniors.

The Campus Concert Series will present their "Pre-Oscar" Concert, featuring the LAVC Wind Ensemble, Sunday at 7 p.m. in the Little Theater.

The Valley College Astronomy Club will open the LAVC Planetarium/Observatory telescopes to the public for viewing the lunar eclipse during the evening of March 23. The height of the eclipse will take place between 8:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Call (818) 778-0335 for more information.

Representatives from the following four-year universities will be at Valley's Transfer Center during March and April: CSUN, Mount St. Mary's, Academy of Art, UCLA, University of Phoenix, Woodbury University and UC Riverside. Appointments are available by calling (818) 781-1200, ext. 126.

The Writing Center is available for student use Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Monday through Thursday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

There will be no Valley College classes held March 28. The Spring Vacation will begin March 31 on through April 5.

ASU officer elections are scheduled for April 9 and 10. Several offices are available, including President. Applications are available in room 100A of the Campus Center. The deadline is April 4.

An Earth Science lecture on "The Coast of California" will be held in the Math-Science Building, room 113, March 25 at noon.

The LAVC Jazz Band, directed by Woody James, will present a concert in Music Room 112 March 27 at 11 a.m.

The LAVC Retirees' Reception will be held April 10 at 11:30 a.m. on the North lawn near the Music Building. A lunch will be available for purchase.

The 20th anniversary of the Health Fair Expo will be held at Valley College April 14, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Free health screenings and counseling will be available. For more information call the Health Fair Hotline at 1-800-488-Expo (3976).

## POLICE WATCH

An indecent exposure occurred on Hatteras St. March 11. A man driving a red convertible BMW drove past a girl, did a U-turn, pulled up next to the girl and then exposed himself.

A minivan was vandalized in Lot A March 11. A window was broken, but nothing was stolen. The incident occurred at approximately 8:30 p.m.

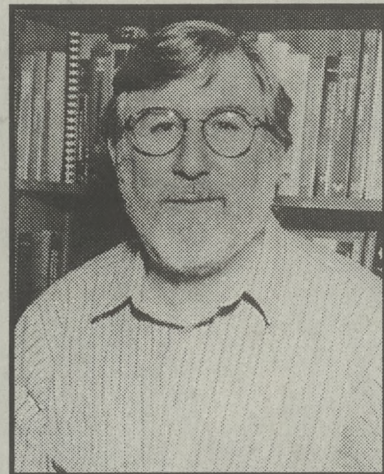
A wallet was stolen from a locker in the fitness center March 12. The thief re-locked the locker after the robbery.

A hubcap was stolen off a newer model mustang in Lot G March 12.

Information provided by Campus Police.

# LAVC Battles \$1 Million Deficit

By LINDA E. THOMAS  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



Budget Committee Chairman  
Martin Hittelman

Los Angeles Valley College faces a more than \$1 million deficit in its budget for the 1996-97 school year.

With the end of the school year looming in the horizon, the budget committee struggles to balance the books.

The budget in trouble is the Program 100 budget which represents basically 96 percent of Valley College funds. This present annual budget is \$22,500,359.

Simply put, if Valley continues spending at the rate it has been, it is projected by the budget committee it will be over a million dollars in the red by the end of the school year, \$1,001,136, to be exact. District officials project an even gloomier end.

"Generally, it is not unusual at

this time of year to have a projected deficit in that amount. We are about the same place we were last year," Valley College President Tyree Wieder said.

Budget committee Chairman Martin Hittelman said Valley ended the '95-'96 school year with only a \$118,748 deficit, about one-tenth of what it is now. The year before, there was no deficit by the end of the school year.

The budget committee has a few plans to combat the projected deficit.

"We look at everything we have that we can stop spending," Hittelman said.

One plan of action, Hittelman said, is to charge the bookstore, community services, parking lot and cafeteria for their own utilities instead of having the school pay for them out of the regular budget. These services generate their own funds and have their own budgets, he said, and they are supposed to be self-supportive, but they are not.

"It cuts down on the expenses for the general budget, therefore helping balance it," Hittelman said.

When asked why the bookstore and others are not required to pay for their own utilities in the first place, Hittelman said, "We've never really been clear on how to do that."

Members of the committee are

looking to heavy summer school enrollment to save the budget, Hittelman said.

"There's a possible \$10 million in more funds for the district that could be added to this year's budget, therefore cutting out the possible deficit and even adding more money to next year," Hittelman said, if summer school enrollment is high enough.

The summer school enrollment will significantly impact whether Valley will end the year in the black and could solve Valley's problems.

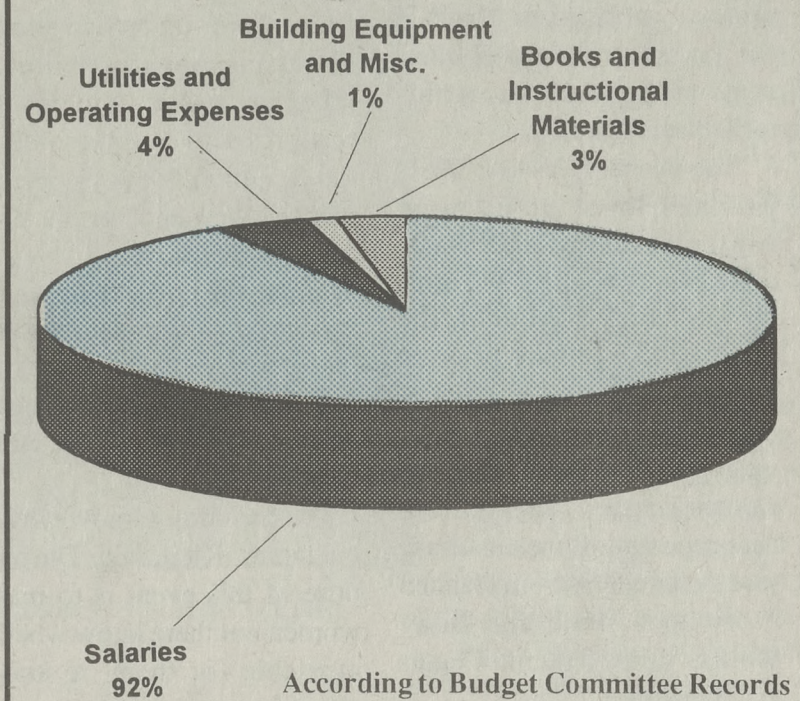
"We're not going to reach it all unless we get heavy enrollment in summer school."

Hittelman added that even though summer school does not finish prior to the official school year ends June 30, it will still count for this school year.

"The summer school will be almost twice as large as last year," Hittelman said. "There will be two sessions with more sections and more subjects offered." Hittelman said that unfortunately he sees no indication of district efforts to maximize its student enrollment for the summer.

Other ways the budget committee said it intends to combat the deficit include extra revenues gained from library fines, traffic citations and transcript fees. Money collected from campus traffic citations alone is estimated

## Where Valley College Money Goes:



at about \$40,000. Together with other such funds, as much as \$300,000 is expected.

"It is clear that there will be a plus in this account," Hittelman said of extra revenues. "It will be used to help reduce the deficit on Program 100."

Basically, the financial numbers game works like this: Valley College shares funds with nine other community colleges and the dis-

trict office for the Los Angeles Community College District. Each college is allotted a certain amount from those funds. The district is funded by money allotted from the state. How the nine colleges collectively perform determines the amount of money the district receives. This does not include special federal or state grants.

Valley College generates ap-

See Budget Page 2

## Arson Hits Grant High

By LINDA E. THOMAS  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Arson struck Valley College's neighboring Grant High School three times this week and an another fire was reported Monday at Valley College.

The first fire was reported Monday at about 7:40 p.m. outside the Valley College library.

"We put it off as being a fire, probably started by a cigarette," Officer G. Tam said. "Those sporadically occur throughout the semester." No significant damage was reported.

Then, at about 8:11 p.m. Monday, Valley College Police received a phone call from Grant High School requesting a response to a fire there. Two fires were raging, a large dumpster and a compost container, Tam said.

"The dumpster was burning pretty good at the campus facilities building at Grant," Officer Spencer Goneson, who responded to the call, said.

The arson squad arrived at the scene and it was determined that the Grant fires were caused by arson, Goneson said.

Tam said Valley officers rechecked Valley's campus to make sure there were no more fires, and there were none.

"Tuesday, we got another call from Grant reporting another fire and asking for assistance again,"

See Arson Page 2



Oceanography students examine various marine organisms on the Vantuna Cruise field trip March 13. Professors Richard Raskoff and Ronald Bigelow conduct the annual outing to give students an opportunity to learn about oceanography through a hands-on experience.

John Tarr  
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

## Upcoming Debates Jump Start ASU Elections

By ALICE GARABEDIAN  
STAR REPORTER

Election time is here again. No, not for the presidency of the United States, but for the Associated Student Union of Valley College.

All executive office positions of the ASU will be available and elections will be held April 9 and 10, during Culture Week which begins April 7. During Culture Week, the candidates will be out meeting students.

"This is not a dictatorship, everyone has to run," ASU Commis-

sioner of Political Affairs Shelly Pasternka said. All ASU officers currently holding office will have to run and win to keep their office.

Prior to Culture Week, a debate will be held March 26 at noon in Monarch Square. This is a chance for the students to ask the candidates questions and find out their views on issues, Pasternka said. It will also give the candidates a chance to let the students know what they plan to change.

"We are all interested in having

people give us ideas, we are all interested in finding out not only what concerns us, but what concerns other people. This will be a very interesting election," Pasternka said.

Pasternka said that less than 10 percent of Valley's 16,000 student population traditionally votes in the ASU election. Pasternka said it should be more, considering that the ASU provides aid for students, such as helping clubs to sponsor events, and fights for the interests of Valley College students.

"I always get asked, 'How much time do I have to put into this,' and I am scaring people off when I say three to four hours a day," Pasternka said. "But then again, we are asking for a good job. We want everyone to participate, everyone to get involved," Pasternka said.

Joel Feldman is running for ASU president, Isaac Ceivas for Treasurer, Maureen Delany for Commissioner of Fine Arts, Shelly Pasternka for Commissioner of Athletics, Inetri Brazil for Com-

missioner of Student Social Affairs, Limor Isaaks for Commissioner of Public Affairs and Allison Scallorns for Commissioner of Evening. Other candidates have not yet been announced, and will be announced at the debate.

Students interested in running for an office must have nine units or more, a GPA of 2.0 or higher and be a current member of ASU. The deadline for application is April 4. Applications are available in Room CC100A.



## Women's History Event Planned

By LIZ RODRIGUEZ  
STAR REPORTER

In celebration of International Women's Day, the Associated Student Union will sponsor a Women's Day Celebration April 18. The event will feature various speakers, representatives from women-focused businesses, a film festival, discussions and an evening musical fine arts presentation.

Event coordinator Melanie Klein said the occasion was originally planned for March 7, the day before the actual International Women's Day which took place March 8.

"The calendar was full," ASU Commissioner of Evening Allison Scallorns said. "Since other events booked Women's History Month [March], the celebration will take place in April."

The event will include a wide variety of information on women's issues ranging from date rape and domestic abuse to representatives from Planned Parenthood, Bath and Body Works, Valley Trauma Center and many more.

"It's a potluck of women," Klein said.

Most of the event will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Quad area near the bungalows, however other activities are planned elsewhere.

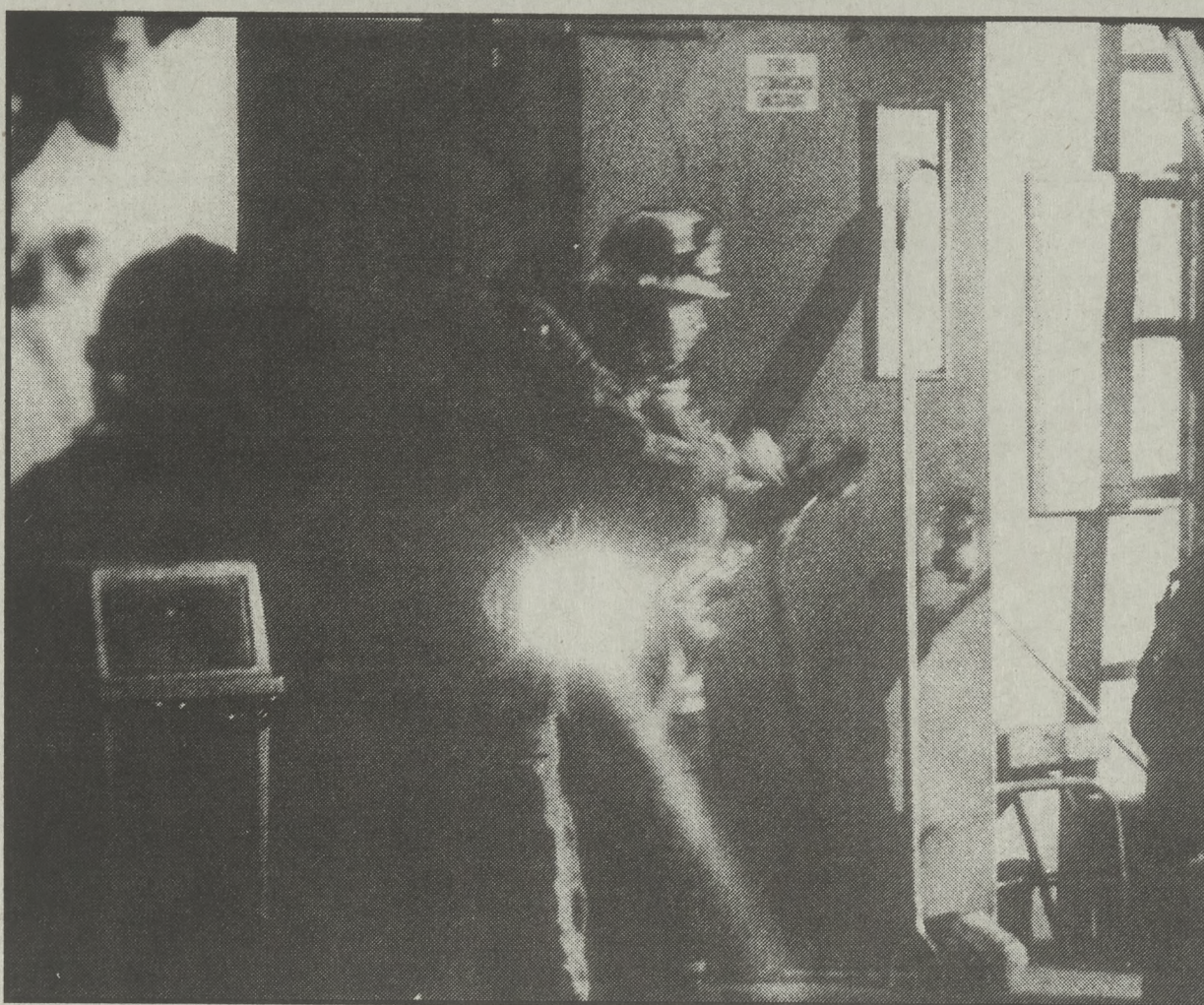
The art group, "Window Between Worlds," will display women's art in Monarch Hall. Klein said she is attempting to persuade the Valley College Fine Arts Department to display some work also.

A film festival will be shown in the Fireside Room, including documentaries about Latina history, witch burning and abused women. Between the films, there will be five minute discussions about each film.

Dance, music and poetry readings will be presented at the evening fine arts performance. Women from the National Council of Negro Women, the music department and the gay and lesbian club will perform. The performance will start at 6:30 p.m. and general admission is \$3, \$2 for ASU members.

"Women don't know what's out there," Klein said. The purpose of this event is to make women out there know what is available for them, to know about women's issues."

Students who wish to get involved in this event or need more information can contact Klein through ASU at (818) 778-0361.



An LA City Fire Fighter exits a Grant High School classroom after battling an arson blaze Tuesday night.

## Arson Strikes

Continued from Page 1

Tam said.

Ten fire engine units, 35 fire fighters and the Arson Squad were called to the scene to combat a structure fire at Grant High, LA City Fire Department spokesman Brian Humphrey said.

An arsonist had broken into a classroom, trashed it and set it on fire, according to the Fire Department.

"A dead snake was also found at the fire site in the classroom," Brian Humphrey, LA City Fire Department spokesman said.

The fires are currently under investigation and preliminary

damages are estimated at several thousand dollars. Humphrey said.

Tam said that a description of a possible suspect has been given to Valley Police, but there is no definite connection yet.

"We're paying attention and looking for things that would indicate a problem," Tam said.

## Budget Committee Fights for Funds to Cure Budget Ills

Continued from Page 1

proximately \$30 million in revenues, but is only allotted approximately \$23 million from the district.

"LAVC has in the past contributed more than their share," Hittelman said. "All of the colleges generate more than they get back."

Hittelman said that the basic criteria for how much money each college gets is the number of full-time equivalent students enrolled.

"East L.A. College has the most full-time equivalent students and gets the most money," Hittelman said.

Valley has the most number of students, but not the most full-time equivalent students. Valley used to be first in this category and now has dropped to fourth place in the district, Hittelman said. That is why it is critical that more full-time students enroll in Valley.

Another controversial issue is the district office budget. Other than the money for the colleges, the district office has a budget which is supposed to pay for running the district, such as managing the payroll, the Board of Trustees and bookkeeping. The district office budget is \$12 million - over half as much money as Valley gets to run an entire college, Hittelman said.

The district office has had an excess of unused funds from their budget, committee member Glenn Milner said.

When asked what is being done about this, Hittelman said, "That's something we've been trying to do forever."

Hittelman said that when the district office comes out with extra money at the end of the year, they get to keep it. He projects there will be a \$2 million surplus of unused district office funds this year.

For instance, Hittelman said, the district office has a \$12 million budget and they only use \$10 million, so they have \$2 million left over. That \$2 million is added to their next year's budget of \$12 million for a total of \$14 million, he said. The money keeps being added to their bank account year after year while Valley College continues to struggle and fight a deficit, he said.

"We're going to have to fight real hard for them not to add that to their money for next year," Hittelman said. If it is not added, the extra money could go to the colleges, including Valley.

The controversial extra funds has had Hittelman fighting hard.

"We have a district budget committee that is not given enough power or respect. Unless we are

given real authority and consideration, it's not going to change," Hittelman said.

Hittelman does not stop at the district level in his fight for funds for Valley and other community colleges, his crusade extends to the state level.

The community college and kindergarten through twelfth grade funds are taken out of the same state money pot. The percentage that the community colleges get is 10.26 percent. Hittelman has fought for an agreement of 10.35 percent, which is a difference of about \$30 million more for community colleges, but the state legislature has not passed the agreement yet.

"Our share isn't right," Hittelman said. "There's a bill going forward this year with the agreement (for the \$30 million) on it. We'll see what success it has and whether the governor signs it."

So far, Governor Wilson's office has rejected most initial budget increase proposals for community colleges.

"The L.A. district is funded at 57 percent of what it would take to run a college normally," Hittelman said.

One question is, just where does Valley's \$23 million slice of the district pie go? The fact, in one word, is salaries.

About \$21 million of the entire \$23 million budget goes to salaries. About \$1 million is used for utilities and operating expenses plus about \$300,000 goes to building equipment. Lastly, about \$700,000 goes to books and instructional materials.

Even with over \$21 million of Valley's \$23 million going to salaries, the district, ironically, has fallen below its required number of full-time instructors. The district could suffer over \$4 million in stiff penalties, Hittelman said. Valley will, therefore, hire more instructors for the fall '97 semester.

Next year's proposed budget already does not include 90 percent of utilities costs nor 41 percent of hourly rate instructor wages, Hittelman said.

"Valley will just be going down the same road until there is a new distribution formula," Hittelman said.

"You're looking at a budget that's a fluid budget," Valley College President Tyree Wieder said, meaning a budget that changes continuously from month to month.

Budget committee member Glenn Milner described it as a "moving target."

"We're never really sure how much money we have," Hittelman said.

## Valley Player Injured in Game

By ALLEN COCHRANE  
STAR REPORTER

Valley softball second baseman, Brenda Pulido, was struck on the left side of her head by a ball thrown to her in a game against Allan Hancock College Tuesday. Pulido was hit in the third inning of the game and left the field because of her injury.

Pulido was struck on the left side of her face, bending her glass frames and resulting in a cut that required bandaging to stem the blood flow.

"I was watching the catcher, the pitcher had thrown to first," Pulido said. "We usually throw in a star but instead of to the shortstop, it went to me."

Pulido said she was not expecting the throw, which came after the play was made when the ball is normally thrown around the infield.

After leaving the game, Pulido was escorted to the training room where the cut was cleaned and the butterfly bandage, which pulls cuts together, was applied.

"My glasses are crooked but I'm OK," Pulido said. "It just hurt at the time."

Pulido said she has no residual effects, such as headaches or dizziness, from her injury.

## It All Adds Up at the Math Lab

By LIZ BARRETT  
STAR REPORTER

Theresa Stevens, a business/calculus student who spends two to three hours a day in the Valley College Math Lab, said that the tutors are terrific and she would be lost without them. But, in the Fall of 1995, there were not tutors at all. Faculty members like Mary Hito had to fill in as volunteers in their free time to start the Math Lab, which now has two tutors and one faculty member per hour helping out.

Hito, supervisor of the Math Lab, said the first semester the lab opened, there were just over 200 students that used it. Now, there have been 560 students that have used the lab services so far this semester.

"It's amazing how they can switch from one math subject to another," Stevens said. "It helps to have different people helping because they each have a different way of solving problems."

The Math Lab offers tutorial help as well as videotapes that teach basic math, beginning algebra and intermediate algebra. For those students who prefer using a computer to learn, the lab offers computer programs that teach basic math, all algebra levels, trigonometry and calculus.

Dana Howick, a pre-algebra student, sues the lab two to three hours a week and said that her grades have definitely improved because of the help she's received from the lab's tutors. Howick said that the hours are convenient and the lab is very useful.

The lab recently acquired eight new computers, Hito said, but a budget increase would help to improve the environment of the Math Lab and provide more desks to house the increasing number of students using the lab.

Hito said she would also like to have the lab open on Monday nights, but the current budget will not allow for another night.

Current Math Lab hours are: Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; and Tuesday through Thursday evenings 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The Math Lab is open to everyone and its services are free.

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## Steamy 'Iguana' is a Night Set Free

By LINDA E. THOMAS  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Theater goers packed the Horseshoe Theatre last week at the full-house opening night performance of Tennessee Williams' play, "Night of the Iguana." Tennessee must have been somewhere standing in applause.

As the unmistakably Williamesque story goes:

Newly widowed nympho Maxine Faulk lords a rural hotel on the west coast of Mexico in 1940. Larry Shannon is a haunted washed-up preacher who hasn't slept for days, hanging onto life by a thread and grasping for something real. He battles God and his own soul to climb out of his neurotic hole.

Shannon, now a tour bus driver, brings the not-so-chaste 16-year-old Charlotte and her classmates from a Baptist girl's school tour group on an unplanned detour to Maxine's hotel. He becomes fascinated by the wise but amazingly innocent lady artist, Hannah Jelkes, who travels with her poet grandfather, Nanno. Hannah's quiet kindness attempts to compel sanity to the surface.

Meanwhile, trapped and tied up out back, is the symbolic iguana, an unattractive creature that still deserves to be set free.

Sean Patrick Rielly pulled off the difficult and psychologically complicated lead role as the nerve-racked strung out Rev. Shannon with convincing neurosis. Rielly made it truly believable that Shannon's nerves were overdrawn and he "couldn't write another check."

At first, it was unclear whether Rielly meant Shannon to be gay, drunk or both, probably neither, just really, really neurotic.

Rielly's performance was impressive. However, he did push it a bit. Even truly disturbed people are not that outwardly nervous all the time. He was best later in the play when he seemed to settle into the role. His seemingly strange enunciation with too many pauses eventually became irritating. Rielly convincingly defended his choice of articulation in a backstage interview:

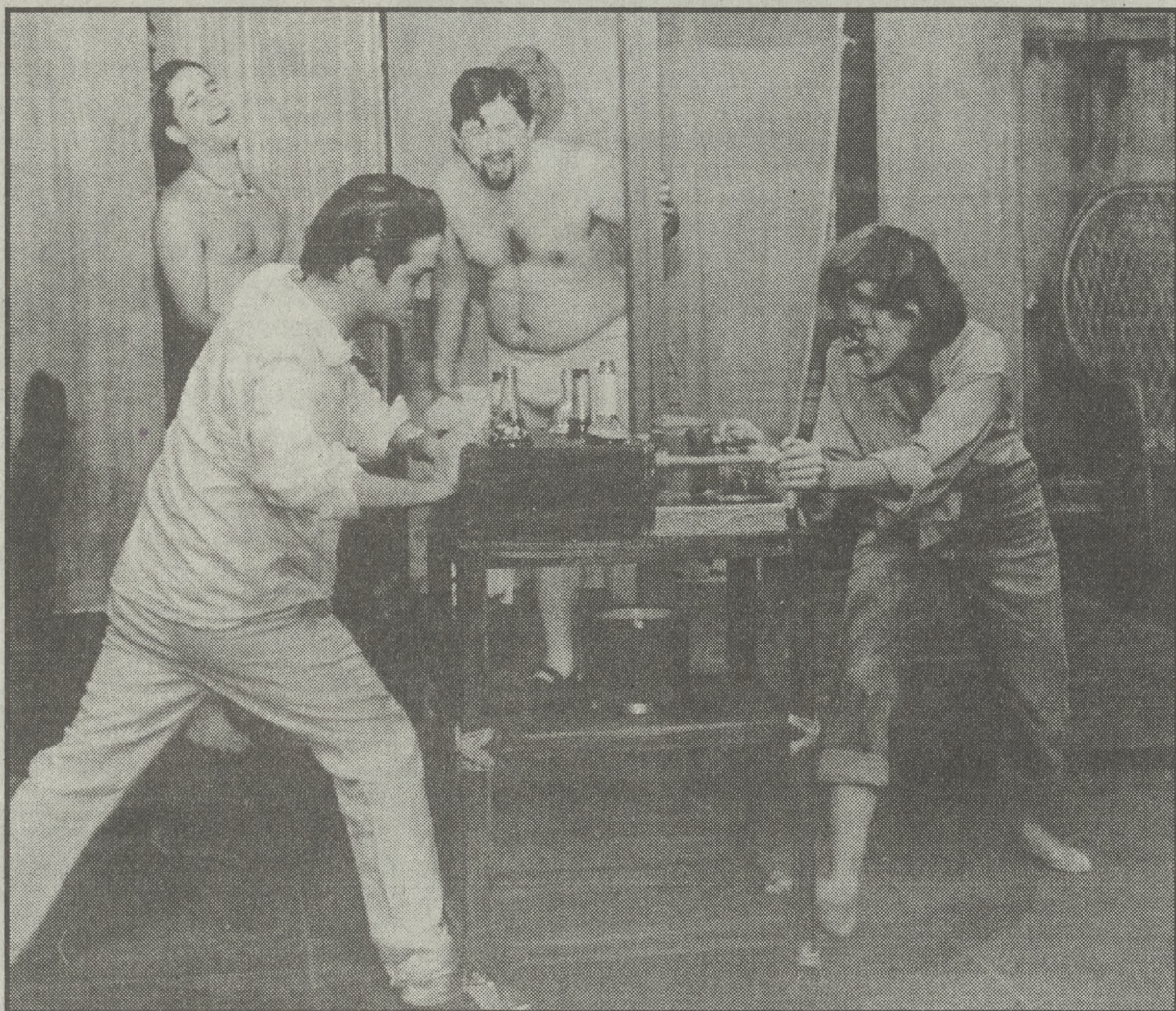
"Shannon's only saving grace is he thinks he is a gentleman and scholar and can orate himself out of a nervous breakdown," Rielly said. Well said, but much more than articulation saves Shannon.

Rielly was best with cynicism, sarcasm and his delivery of humorous antics. Williams' quick wit and dark humor came through in Rielly's portrayal of someone who defines statutory rape as a man who is seduced by a girl under 20 and thinks lunacy and death are just a little worse than chastity.

"Overall, the production was professional and thoroughly enjoyable. It is recommended not to miss this one."

The cast was convincingly hot with stringy hair and sweaty clothes in the sweltering Mexican September.

Maggie Storm was doubly hot as the steamy, and sex-starved



James Hughes/Valley Star  
Sean Patrick Rielly (front left) as Rev. Shannon and Maggie Storm (front right) as Maxine Faulk lose their tempers in the steamy Mexican heat in "Night of the Iguana."

Maxine in her ever-so-low cut chambray shirt. Overall, Storm gave a good solid performance. However, she didn't seem quite comfortable with some of her lines and the awkwardness showed.

Susan Ridgley gave no less than an excellent performance as Hanna. Her portrayal was as sensitive and natural as could be seen on a college, or any, stage. Ridgley was simply eloquent and elegant things that are and not played.

Storm and Rielly acted their

parts. Ridgley lived it. The difference is surpassing surface mannerisms into the dimension of being a real person.

Wayne Walker was splendid as the warm and lovable "minor league poet with a major league spirit." Nonno. His delivery and agedness were near perfection and would make anyone believe Nonno was certainly real.

Elizabeth Taylor was prudishly super as the "butch" song leading school matron, Judith Fellowes.

Change the "u" in "butch" to an "i" and she was a real good one.

Amy Collett was quite good as the forlorn love-struck Charlotte as was Jessie Leon in the small role of the sweat-swabbing fatso, Jake Latta.

Though they had no dialogue, Ricardo Gutierrez and Sean Henry complimented the production as the never-to-hurry boy toy bell hops, as did Eric Grindler as Hank and Bret Lieberman. Lara Fisher, Christopher Barnes and

Jane Nuttycombe as the boisterously healthy German tourists.

Shannon, thrown out of the church for fornication and atheistic heresy, claims God is a senile delinquent, angry old man who blames the whole world for His faults in construction. Shannon dares God to strike him dead during the effective storm scene where "real" rain is dramatically used on stage. It worked well.

Peter Parkin's impressive set looked great in the intimate theater. The tiled floor, fences and burlap "vines" hanging from the rafters effectively brought the audience into the verandah scene to make them feel a part of it. The fishing nets, draped gauze and rattan were nice touches that set the mood and captured the feel of the rural Mexican coast.

The only criticism would be, it looked too good, too clean for a dump that makes "a room at the 'Y' look like a suite at the Ritz," as Fellowes described in the play. The stage craft class reportedly put the set together, good job.

Judy Ashton's pastel cotton costuming for the principals and colorful 1940s play suits for the hotel guests tastefully added to the production.

The storm effects, night sounds, soft lighting and tropical music created a mood for the production and presented no noticeable glitches.

Overall, the production was professional and thoroughly enjoyable. It is recommended not to miss this one.

Come early to get a seat for the remaining performances tonight, Friday and Saturday. Call (818) 778-0353 for reservations.

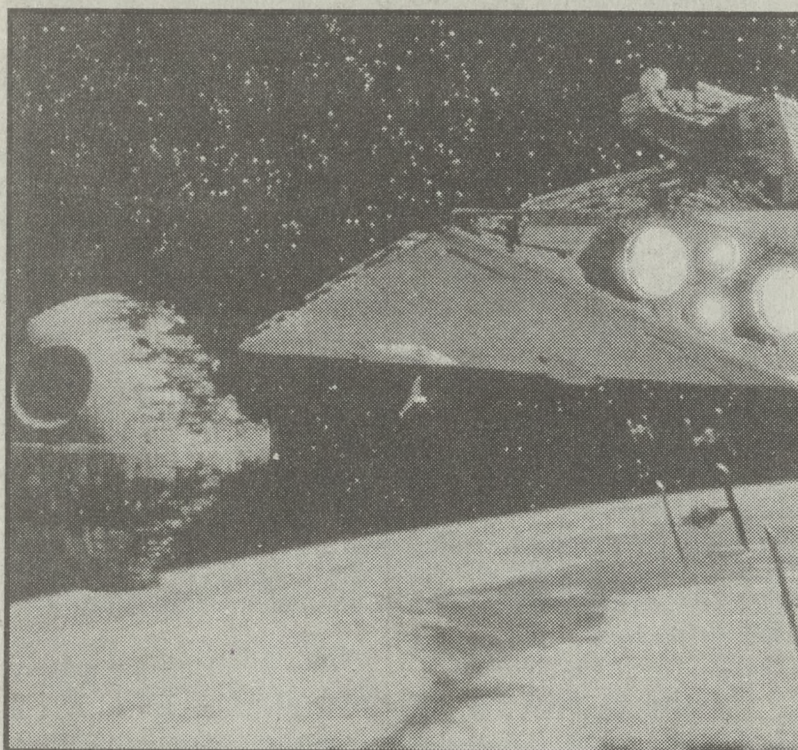


Photo courtesy of LucasFilm Ltd.

An Imperial Star Destroyer approaches the incomplete Death Star in a new scene from "Return of the Jedi Special Edition."

## THE MUPPETS TAKE ENDOR

### A Review of 'Return of the Jedi Special Edition'

By LEO SMITH  
STAR REPORTER

Well, here it is, the final installment of the Star Wars Trilogy.

What a major disappointment.

I mean, with all that technology available to George Lucas, why didn't he digitally remove those damn Ewoks.

After viewing Return of the Jedi: Special Edition you are left with mixed feelings of closure and nausea resulting from a film that teeters from the dramatic to the absurd.

So, what exactly is the problem with Return of the Jedi? Not a whole lot, but considering its

near perfect predecessors, it's not just up to par.

Well, that's enough negativity for the time being, let's take a look at what still makes the film worth seeing.

Other than the digital cleanup on the sound and picture, we are also treated to some obligatory new scenes. Among these new shots are a new view of Jabba the Hutt's palatial living room, complete with a new band and dancers and an amorous Boba Fett.

Later in the film, we are treated to a galaxy wide view of celebrations commemorating the demise

of the evil Empire and more dancing Ewoks.

The plot itself is strong and brings to a head the relationship between Darth and Luke. The cunning and pompous Emperor is revealed to us and presents a figure more dangerous and disturbing than Vader. We find out that humans aren't the only rebels and that it is no longer a white-washed bunch. Han and Leia fall in love, C3-PO becomes a god, the Death Star blows up again and the good guys win. It's worth the price of admission just to see the final duel between father and son.

The problem with the film is al-

most entirely the fault of those hunter/gatherer Care Bears. Those merchandise friendly fur balls muck up an otherwise epic film with their cutie scene stealing antics. They really do rob the film of its importance and essentially trivialize the bewildering defeat of the Galactic Empire by a small band of ill-equipped rebels. Had it not been for the Ewoks, this would have been a darker finale to the trilogy. As it is, Jedi is a climatic disappointment.

Still, even though Return of the Jedi is the poorest film in the trilogy, it is better than most of the schlep Hollywood cranks out.

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## Dreams of Icy Gold

By DAVID BALDWIN  
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

The crowd goes wild as Maria Causey finishes her figure skating routine. Causey has done the impossible, she has received a perfect score and guaranteed the Olympic gold medal. This was one of the dreams that Causey had when she was younger.

It was a very difficult thing for Causey, now a Valley College student, to accept that she did not make the Olympic team. She had anticipated that she would make it since she had been a small child, and though she got really close, she did not.

"If you have an Olympic medal, your life is set. Without it, all your hard work is washed away," Causey said. She said that thought expressed how she felt for a long time.

Causey was born in Neuremberg, Germany where her father was in the U.S. Army. She was a "military brat," by her own description.

Her mother had been a figure

skater and became Causey's coach. Causey described herself as "shy" when she was a child.

At the age of 13, Causey was the youngest to be on the national skating team. She remained on the team for six years.

Being on the team required at least six hours of skating each day, plus dance class, practice, school and homework. At the same time, she tried to be "a normal kid."

From the time she was 19, Causey loved traveling and performing with the ice shows. She enjoyed going on safari in South Africa, as well as visiting many small towns around the world.

Today, Causey works and goes to Valley College. She teaches ice-skating and jazz dance, influencing many young people to follow their dreams.

She goes to college to continue her own personal growth. She also works as an actress, doing commercials and clips, hoping for a really big part.

Although Causey is a very

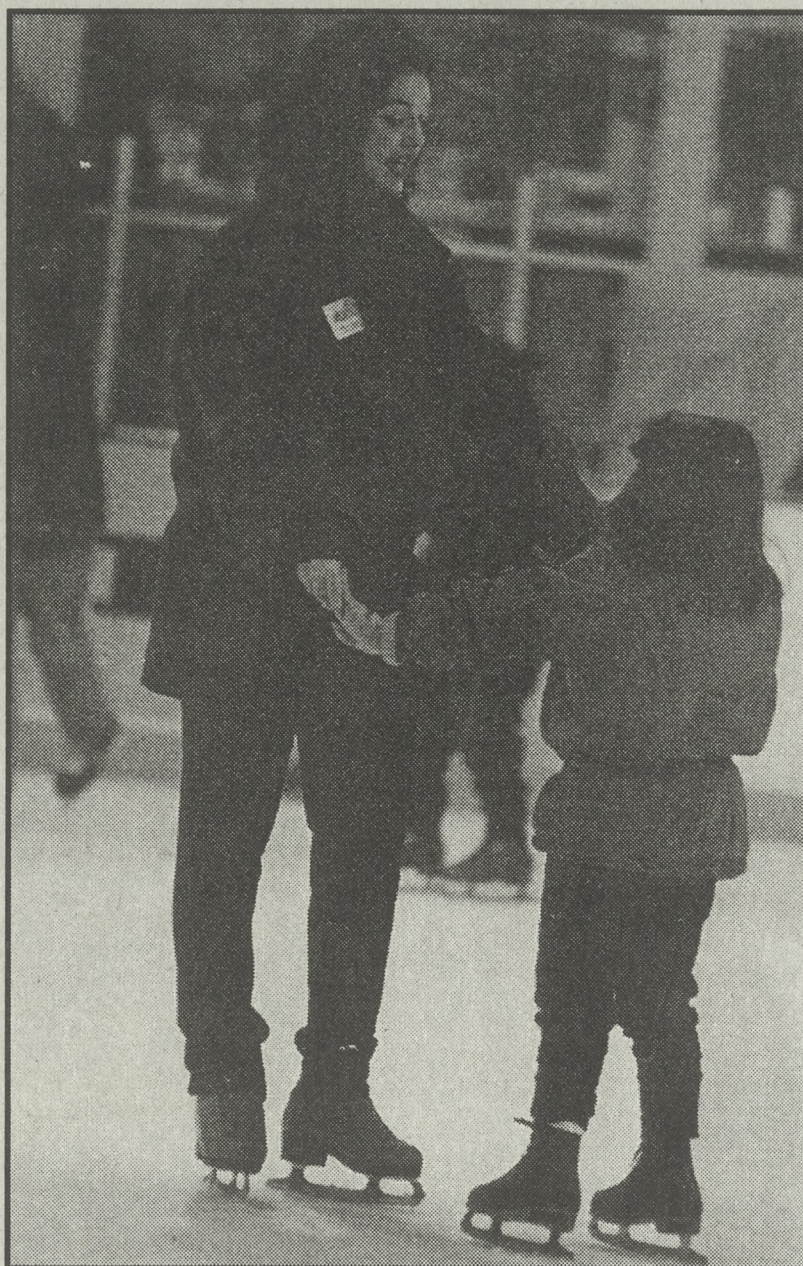
busy person, she is also a very private person. She said she feels lucky to have friends all over the world. She has not had time to establish too many solid friendships in Los Angeles.

Because of being shy when she was a little girl and being so wrapped up with her skating as a teenager, she never had time for dating. She also never became a "wild kid," as she saw some others become.

"Now I am a social butterfly," Causey said.

Causey's plans for the future are still growing, as she takes classes and learns more about herself and the world she lives in. She said she would still like to perform, whether it be through acting, figure skating or dancing. She said she wants to do something creative while still waiting to see what the future will bring her. Wherever the road of life takes her, Causey said she hopes to encourage children to have dreams and to work toward their fulfillment.

"To view life without dreams is a dreary existence without hope for a better future," Causey said.



David Baldwin/Valley Star  
Maria Causey teaches one of her young students figure eights while gliding her toward her dreams.

## Dear Ali

Dear Ali,

My problem is that my boyfriend is of a different nationality and culture (Israeli and Jewish) and I am not Jewish. The problem is, his parents are so against him going out with me because I am not Israeli or Jewish. My boyfriend and I have a great relationship, but his parents are a big part of his life. How do I deal with such a tedious situation?

Signed,  
In Love

Dear In Love,

Cultural differences are a big issue, although I have never understood them. As long as two people get along and love each other, the other person's race, religion, nationality and/or gender, should not matter. "Love is blind," and I believe it is, but only with some people. Obviously, your boyfriend's parents don't agree. If you two are truly happy, you have to somehow prove it to them so that no matter what they say or think, they can't break you two apart. Sometimes these situations break up relationships by causing tension. He tells you what his mom/dad said, or you overhear something and you get into a discussion about it and he will start defending his mom/dad. The best thing to do is not to talk about it. You know these are the thoughts and feelings of his parents not his. No matter what they say, he will still love you. I hope I helped. Good luck.

Signed,  
Ali



Liz Barrett/Valley Star  
Local mall visitors enjoy shopping at Sherman Oaks Fashion Square.

**"There's something about a mall that just makes people happy."**

## Valley Malled to the Max

By LIZ BARRETT  
FEATURE EDITOR

The smell of new clothes, the rustling of bags and aching feet from walking the whole day can only mean one thing - you're at the mall!

In the winter we go to escape the cold. In the summer, we go to escape the heat. All year long we go to escape everyday life. There's something about a mall that just makes people happy.

Malls have been a staple of American life and they can always be counted on to be there when and where we need them.

People flock to the malls for Christmas gifts, birthday gifts, presents for baby showers, weddings, Bar Mitzvahs and all other celebrations. What would the world be like if there were no malls?

In the immediate area we have Sherman Oaks Fashion Square, Sherman Oaks Galleria, Panorama Mall, Media City Center and Northridge Mall.

These malls offer an array of services from personal engraving

to photo processing. Stores line the aisles and carry casual, business and children's apparel for men, women, girls and boys.

A shopper can arrive at the Burbank Media City Center in the morning, have some coffee and a snack for breakfast, and start their shopping. Along with all the stores within the mall, they can also shop in Sears, Mervyn's or Macy's. Stop for a quick lunch break in the food court and then go see a movie in the AMC Media 8, located right inside the mall on the upper level. After the movie, why not go outside the mall and take a stroll in lively downtown Burbank.

For those closer to Sherman Oaks, visit the Sherman Oaks Fashion Square and enjoy spending your money in Macy's or the newly added Bloomingdale's. There's always a nice cafe to stop for coffee and plenty of places to sit and rest your tired feet.

Sherman Oaks Galleria offers all the usual great stores along with a Robinsons-May and a General Cinema theater. Sometimes even a pianist can be caught playing a grand piano on the lower level while you snack at the upper level food court.

Northridge seems to be the favorite of many, as the halls are filled with anxious shoppers moving from Sears to Robinsons-May, and JC Penney to Macy's.

The Northridge earthquake may have shaken down the mall, but it certainly didn't shake away the shoppers. The mall is just as busy now as it was before the tumbler knocked down the complex.

The marble floors and high ceilings accentuate the rich atmosphere of the newly remodeled and rebuilt mall.

For those shoppers looking to find something specific and fast, Panorama Mall is the best bet. In this single level mall, which offers no department stores since The Broadway was closed down, there is no fighting for parking, and shopping is a snap.

Panorama Mall is ideal for those last minute birthday gifts, but not one where you would want to spend the entire day.

So, put on your walking shoes, pack up the kids, grab your checkbook and head out to the local mall. There's always something for everyone.

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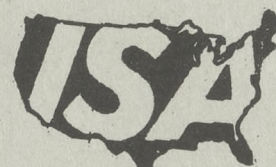
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## Lady Monarchs Lose Uphill Battle

By ALLEN COCHRANE  
STAR REPORTER

The Monarchs softball team never got itself in sync, as they were beaten in all aspects of a 7-1 loss to the Allan Hancock Bulldogs at home, Tuesday.

"We didn't do what we practiced," coach Kodee Murray said. "We try to be aggressive but we came out flat."

The team got off to a rocky start in the first inning, as the Bulldog hitters struck quickly with a leadoff double by their left fielder over the center fielder's glove, followed by a bunt by their third baseman, advancing the runner to third.

The runner on first stole second, uncontested, and a pop to right by the Bulldog center fielder drove in two on the out.

Valley's half was a 1.2.3 inning making it 2-0, Bulldogs after one.

The second inning saw Valley's fielders settle down as a Bulldog single was negated by two successive bunt outs and a pop fly out to short center.

The Valley half looked promising as a comebacker to the pitcher by Kim Scott got away from the first baseman, advancing Scott to second.

Following a strikeout by Rosalinda Gonzalez, a shot to third by Brenda Pulido handcuffed the third baseman, making Pulido safe at first, although Scott was held at second.

However, the third out was a liner to first by Maria Luna, and the Valley bottom was ended.

The top half of the third was a short comedy of errors Valley survived with some luck.

A leadoff comebacker to the pitcher was late to first.

The next pitch got by the catcher advancing the runner to second. This was followed by a high pitch that sailed by the catcher and advanced the runner to third.

With runners on second and third, the bulldog hitter hit a short fly to left. The throw went to third and then to second and the lead runner was called out for leaving early.

With a lone runner now on third with two out, Valley got the Bulldog first baseman to line a roller to third and then threw to first for the out.

Valley had a quick half as a

single past the third baseman by Lidia Olivares was the lone highlight and the score remained, 2-0.

The Bulldog fourth had the hitters on track as a triple by their second baseman and a subsequent bunt drove in a run.

Although this was followed by a low shot past short and two successive walks, Valley's defense held with the bases loaded and a comebacker to the pitcher. Scott, resulted in the last out on the throw to first.

In the bottom half, Jessica Leivo led off with a shot to right for a single. She was advanced to second when Gonzalez laid down a bunt back to the pitcher who threw past the first baseman, and Leivo then took third.

Valley could not capitalize, however, as a comebacker to the pitcher and subsequent throw to first and then a shot to right and throw to first, resulted in the final two outs of the inning.

After four it was Bulldogs 3, Valley 0.

The fifth found the Bulldogs chipping away as the leadoff hitter stroked a single to right and then stole second as the throw from home got away from the short stop. The Bulldog catcher then hit a line shot up the middle which was quickly rifled in to home by center fielder, Norma Dorado, but the tag at home was high, scoring the runner.

Valley put one runner on with a hit-by-pitch on Olivares but two bunt outs and a pop out were sandwiched around it, and Valley came away empty again.

Scott had her easiest inning in the sixth, as the Bulldog hitters were held to a lone single that got by the shortstop and dribbled into shallow center.

Valley started the sixth in a promising manner as a pop fly to short right by Leivo, dropped in. Joie Dushane was brought in to run for Leivo and when Gonzalez hit to third, the throw to first was dropped and Dushane raced to third, with Gonzalez safe at first.

The bulldogs then threw to third resulting in another error.

Dushane then tore for home but was gunned down and Gonzalez ended up at second.

A subsequent single by Vanessa Zapata was wasted as a well stroked rope to center by Luna resulted in the out at second.

The Bulldogs put the game out



Valley softball player slides safely back to second base after a pickoff play, during a 7-1 loss to the Allen Hancock Bulldogs.

Carolla Danielson/Valley Star

of reach in the seventh with three runs on an RBI double over the left fielder's glove and a two run pop fly that found the centerfielder, shortstop and left fielder converging toward the ball but no one taking charge and coming up with it.

Valley finally saw daylight in the bottom of the seventh as Leivo hit a line shot to the second baseman who fumbled the ball and the runner at third, scoring Amber Gutierrez.

With the final out, it was 7-1 Bulldogs.

"The beginning of the game set the tone for the rest of it," Leivo said. "We just didn't play well. I don't think they're a better team than us. We just had more offensive problems today."

Murray said the team did not do the job on the field and the result was a team not working together.

"We didn't do what we practiced today," Murray said. "When you're not mentally there and focused, you can't beat a team like they have. Now they see the reason we always harp on them. We

didn't have the confidence to go out and beat that team. They are a great group and they work hard. There are fighters in this group and as a team, they'll be back fighting."

The team's lack of focus and field spirit was addressed by catcher, Bonnie Lehigh.

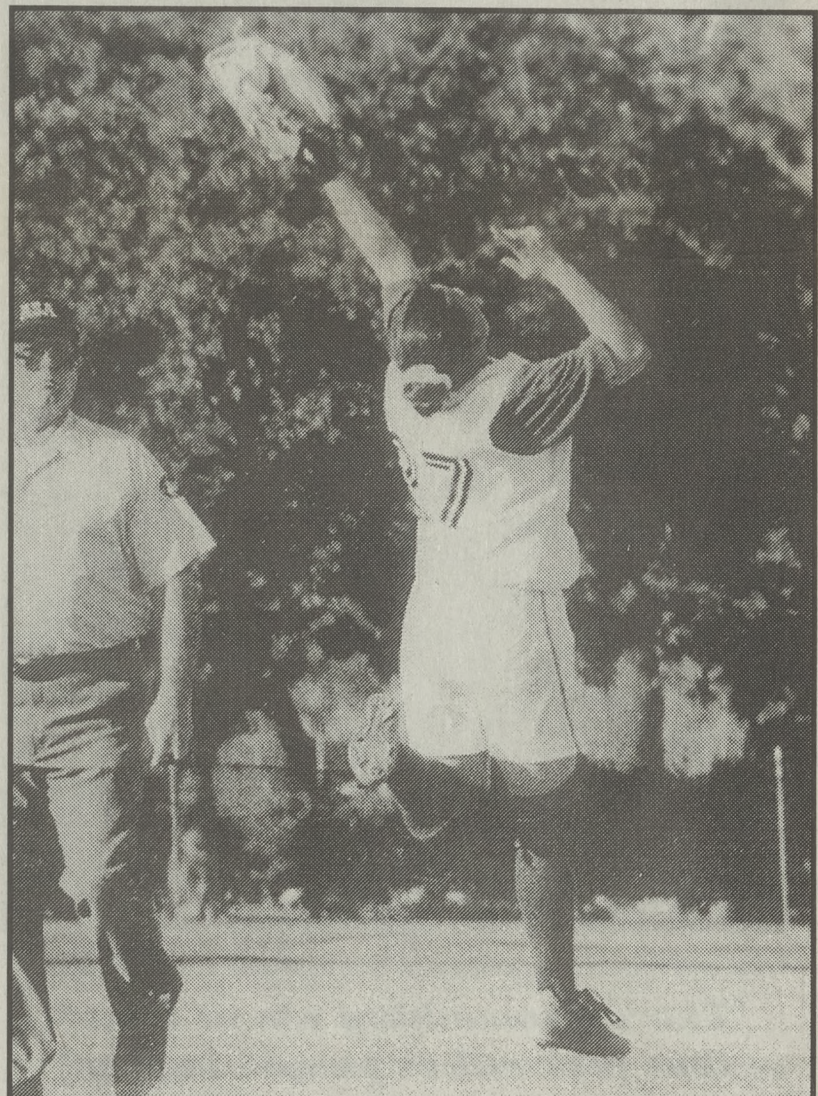
"As a team, we weren't communicating. There wasn't any talk out there on the field," Lehigh said. "We weren't there mentally and the errors came one after another. We'll work on base running, hitting, defense and talking it up."

Murray said she expects her team to respond to the loss in a positive fashion.

"We have four players who can run like the light," Murray said. "The other five have some power but no punch in their speed. They'll come back. They've shown that all year."

Leivo, the only Valley hitter to drive in a run, expects the team to extend more effort in the future.

"We just didn't show up today," Leivo said. "We were a little nervous. We just have to work harder."



Charlotte Ali stretches out to nab a line shot over second base.

Carolla Danielson/Valley Star

### Goodwill Invitational Meet Results

Event	Name	Time/Distance
<b>1st Place Finishes</b>		
Men's 400m Heat 1	Charles Lee	47.42 seconds
Men's 400m Heat 2	Milton Wynn	53.76 seconds
Men's 800m	Jose Jimenez	2:02.22 minutes
Men's 200m Heat 2	David Belk	22.02 seconds
Men's 200m Heat 3	Devin David	23.20 seconds
Women's Discus	Emmy Vargas	116'8"
<b>2nd Place Finishes</b>		
Men's 100m Heat 3	David Belk	10.7 seconds
<b>3rd Place Finishes</b>		
Men's 1500m Heat 3	Jose Jimenez	4:21.4 minutes
<b>4th Place Finishes</b>		
Men's 1500m Heat 4	Oscar Cisneros	4:45.8 minutes
Women's Shot Put	Emmy Vargas	37'5"
<b>6th Place Finishes</b>		
Men's Shot Put	Jeff Macrea	44'5"

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